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PROGRAMME OF ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL DECADE OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLE

Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, Finland, Greece and New Zealand: draft resolution

United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 40/131 of 13 December 1985 establishing the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/32 of 3 March 1995, 1/ as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1995/32 of 25 July 1995, which authorized the establishment of an open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission with the sole purpose of elaborating a draft declaration, considering the draft United Nations declaration on the rights of indigenous peoples annexed to resolution 1994/45 of 26 August 1994 of the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, 2/ for consideration and adoption by the General Assembly within the International Decade of the World's Indigenous People,

Taking note also of the provisions in Commission on Human Rights resolution 1995/32 regarding the participation of organizations of indigenous people in the open-ended inter-sessional working group,

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1/ See Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1975, Supplement No. 3 and corrigenda (E/1995/23 and Corr.1 and 2), chap. II, sect. A.

2/ See E/CN.4/1995/2, chap. II, sect. A.

Emphasizing the importance and special nature of the draft declaration as a standard-setting exercise specifically for indigenous people,

Recognizing the desirability of assisting organizations of indigenous people to participate in the open-ended inter-sessional working group,

1. Decides that the United Nations Voluntary Fund for Indigenous Populations should also be used to assist representatives of indigenous communities and organizations to participate in the deliberations of the open-ended inter-sessional working group of the Commission on Human Rights established by the Commission in its resolution 1995/32 of 3 March 1995, as endorsed by the Economic and Social Council in its resolution 1995/32, as well as in the deliberations of the Working Group on Indigenous Populations;

2. Requests the Secretary-General to bring the present resolution to the attention of Member States and to invite them to consider contributing to the Voluntary Fund.